

January 8, 1976

SENATOR NICHOL: Senator Wiltse, if you wanted to answer that I'll wait.

SENATOR WILTSE: No.

SENATOR NICHOL: I have no objection to your bill in the way of safety. I think that's fine. Is it true what we're getting at is the height of bumpers on cars? Is this really the crux of the matter?

SENATOR WILTSE: That actually is the crux, yes.

SENATOR NICHOL: Well I think I agree with that. However, as Senator Barnett was explaining weight in a car will vary the height of bumpers. Now I know that bumpers vary in height now. Some of the smaller cars are lower, and some of the larger cars are higher. They don't always fit. I think some of us have experienced this in getting damage in the front or rear of our car. Also, trailer hitches have a bad effect when they are allowed to protrude beyond the back bumper. I was wondering, perhaps, if you'd want to consider this in your bill? Thirdly, I know many people across the state have a hobby of changing automobiles. I don't object to this. Some of them are very knowledgeable about what they are doing. On the other hand I suppose that perhaps this law is supposed to hit at those who don't know what they are doing. If they are making these cars unsafe, of course, we are concerned.

That's getting back to the other point I was making. These people that do have a hobby of making these cars different and, in my opinion, many of them make them very beautiful and very functional. Sometimes I hear some of their motors run and I'm envious of my cars that I take to a garage for repairs and these other people have them running better. But, as stated, if you can re-word this bill so that you're getting to the point where the bumpers are maintained at a reasonable height, perhaps you could do it better than it is now.

I didn't get in on the hearings of this bill. If we discussed it on the floor I didn't hear it. I think perhaps you could change that bill to make it a little better.

PRESIDENT: There's an amendment on the desk.

CLERK: Mr. President, I move to amend the committee amendment by striking "or change the track". Signed, Senator Mills. There's a nunquote in there somewhere.

SENATOR WILTSE: That's alright.

PRESIDENT: Chair recognizes Senator Mills.